



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

COOS BAY DISTRICT OFFICE

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March 4, 2004

Greetings!

This edition of the Coos Bay Planning Update exists in two forms - the “electronic” version on our web page, and this companion document printed on paper. If you have Internet access you can view this document at any time and get up-to-date status reports on Coos Bay District projects. The address is:

<http://www.or.blm.gov/coosbay>

Since you received this document in the postal mail, please assume that this is a “snapshot” of the status of projects on the day in which it was mailed to you. We will continue to send you printed copies of this document unless you request to be removed from the mailing list.

You can help us reduce our printing and postage costs by either having your name and address removed from the District’s postal mailing list and your e-mail address added to our electronic notification list or, if your interests have changed, just being removed from mailing lists altogether. Either way, our overhead expenses will be reduced – and we all benefit from the savings.

If you need to know the status of a project at any time, you now have the choice of finding the information on the web site, or you can contact the project lead listed in the following tables. Please know that more information is available by contacting us on the web, by telephone, by letter, or visiting us at our office in North Bend.

We hope this document provides an information link between you and the BLM’s Coos Bay District Office. Its intent is to increase your awareness of BLM activities and improve your opportunities to discuss these activities with us. By keeping you informed of the Coos Bay District’s management activities and inviting your participation, we hope to continue our ongoing relationship. We would appreciate any comments or suggestions you may have regarding this Planning Update or how it could be improved to make it more useful to you.

By clicking on the following links, you will find tables listing projects in the [Umpqua Resource Area](#) and the [Myrtlewood Resource Area](#)

Sincerely,

/s/ Sue Richardson

District Manager

Watershed Analysis

The Umpqua Field Office is undertaking the preparation of two Watershed Analysis documents this summer. These two documents are titled *Middle Umpqua Watershed Analysis* and *Loon Lake/Camp Creek Watershed Analysis*. If you have information about or wish to be a part of the analysis effort, please contact Frank Price at the listed address, phone number, or e-mail address.

The specific areas covered by the watershed analysis are:

Middle Umpqua	Portions of:	T. 21 S., R. 7, 8, 9 & 10 W; T. 22 S., R. 7, 8, 9, & 10 W; T. 23 S., R. 8 & 9 W
Loon Lake/Camp Creek	Portions of:	T. 22 S., R. 9 & 10 W; T. 23 S., R. 8, 9, & 10 W; T. 24 S., R. 8, 9, & 10 W; T. 25 S., R. 8 & 9 W

The analysis process is beginning now on both watersheds, and is expected to be completed in September 2004.

Watershed Restoration Projects

The Coos Bay District Resource Advisory Committee, as provided in the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-393), will be reviewing and recommending restoration and maintenance projects that beneficially influence public lands to the BLM totaling approximately 1.5 million dollars in the coming months.

Local citizens have an opportunity to propose projects. In order for projects to be presented to the Resource Advisory Committee, projects should be submitted to Sue Richardson, District Manager at the BLM – Coos Bay District Office by April 1, 2004. The Resource Advisory Committee is expected to finalize funding recommendations by mid August, and the BLM will approve projects for funding by September 30, 2004.

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 establishes a six-year payment schedule to local counties in lieu of funds derived from the harvest of timber on federally managed lands, which have dropped dramatically over the past 10 years. The Act creates a new mechanism for local community collaboration with federal land management activities in the selection of projects to be conducted on federally managed lands or that will benefit resources on federally managed lands using O&C/County funds under Title II of the Act.

A copy of the Act, project submission forms, and additional information can be found on the BLM – Coos Bay District's web site (www.or.blm.gov/coosbay) or can be obtained by calling one of the District Contacts below.

Glenn Harkleroad, District Restoration Coordinator – 541-751-4361
or
Sue Richardson, District Manager, - 541- 756-0100

Title II Project Status - Coos County

Project Name	Complete	Proponent	Current Status 2/26/04
Park Creek Culvert Repair	Yes	BLM	Completed by BLM road maintenance.
Hantz Creek Culvert Replacement	Yes	BLM	Completed through contract
Yankee Run RF Culvert Replacement	Yes	BLM	Completed through contract
Sandy Creek Instream	Yes	BLM	Completed through contract
Aquatic Passage Evaluation	Yes	BLM	Project completed in cooperation with Oregon State Univ.
Natural History Books for Library	Yes	BLM	Books delivered to COASTLINE library system
Federal Land Protection/Weeds	No	Coos Co.	Work begun by County
NYC Youth Employment and Trail	Yes	NYC	Completed by the Northwest Youth Corps.
Steele Creek Culvert Replacement	Yes	Coquille WSA	Completed by Coquille Watershed Assoc
Swayne Creek Culvert Replacement	No	Coquille WSA	Work will be done in the summer of 2004.
Aerial Photos for Coos Co. Planning Dept.	Yes	BLM	Project completed by BLM.
Catching Slough Rd Maint. & Fish Pass.	No	Coos WSA	Coos County Road Department will pave in summer of 2004.
Federal Land Protection - Weeds II	No	Coos Co.	Work begun by County
Coos Bay District Organic Weed Con.	No	BLM	Project under review
Paving of County Roads	No	Coos Co.	Paving expected to occur summer of 2004.
Daniel's Creek Road Rehabilitation	No	Coos Co.	Project to be initiated in FY04
New River Health / Breaching	No	BLM	Project to be initiated in FY04
Noxious Weeds / Coquille Forest	No	CIT	Project to be initiated in FY04
NYC and Coos Bay District Maintenance	No	BLM	Project to be initiated in FY04

Title II Project Status - Curry County

Project Name	Completed	Proponent	Current Status 2/26/04
New River Large Wood	Yes	So Coast WC	Completed by South Coast Watershed Council.
Edson Creek Stream Restoration	Yes	BLM	Completed by Coquille Watershed Association.
Sixes/Edson Recreation Site Trails	Yes	BLM	Completed by the Northwest Youth Corps.
Coos Bay District Organic Weed Con.	No	BLM	Project under review
Emergency Communication	No	Curry County	Assiatance Agreement issued.
White Mountain Road Storm Proofing	No	BLM	Project to be initiated in FY04
NYC and Coos Bay District Maintenance	No	BLM	Project to be initiated in FY04

Title II Project Status - Douglas County

Project Name	Complete	Proponent	Current Status 2/26/04
Drainage Improvement and Road Resurface	Yes	BLM	Completed by BLM and through contract.
South Sister 13 Culvert Replacement	Yes	BLM	Completed through contract
South Sister 8 and 18 Culvert Replacement	Yes	BLM	Completed through contract
Church Creek Culvert Removal	Yes	BLM	Completed through contract
North Sister 10 Culvert Replacement	Yes	BLM	Completed through contract
Carpenter Creek Tributary Culvert Replace.	Dropped	BLM	Project dropped from consideration.
Dean Creek Culvert Replacement	Yes	BLM	Project completed by BLM road maintenance.
Natural History Books for Library - D.C.	Yes	BLM	Books have been delivered to the Reedsport Library.
County Road Right-of-Way Weed Control	Dropped	BLM	Project dropped from consideration.
Black Creek Tide Gate	Yes	SRWC	Project completed by the Smith River Watershed Council
Bum Cr. & So. Sister Cr. Instream	No	BLM	Project layout completed. Scheduled for summer of 2004.
Windy Cr. Culvert Replacement	Yes	BLM	Completed through contract
So. Sister 13B Culvert Replacement	Yes	BLM	Completed through contract
Cedar Creek Culvert Replacement	Yes	BLM	Completed through contract
Soup Cr. 23-9-19.0 Culvert Replacement	Yes	BLM	Completed through contract
West Fork Mosestown Cr. Culvert Repl.	Yes	BLM	Completed through contract
W. F.Smith River Salmonid Trapping	Yes	BLM	Project completed by ODFW.
Aerial Photos for Umpqua Basin WC	Yes	BLM	Air photos delivered to Watershed Council
Umpqua Riparian Reserve & Enhance.	Dropped	USWCD	Project dropped by Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District.
Harvey Cr. Habitat Enhancement P. I	Dropped	USWCD	Project dropped by Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District.
Fishery Biologist Support	No	UBWC	Task Order issued to the Umpqua Basin Watershed Council.
Information Repository & Development	No	UBWC	Work is on-going
Impl. & Effectiveness Monitoring	No	UBWC	Work is on-going
Coos Bay District Organic Weed Con.	No	BLM	Project under review.
Big Creek Habitat Restoration	No	BLM	Project to be initiated in FY04
Dean Creek Weed Treatment	No	BLM	Project to be initiated in FY04
Halfway Creek Aquatic Restoration	No	BLM	Project to be initiated in FY04
Heddin Creek Fish Passage	No	UBWC	Project to be initiated in FY04
Koapke Slough Culvert Replacement	No	BLM	Project to be initiated in FY04
Marsh Creek Culvert Replacement	No	BLM	Project to be initiated in FY04
N.Sisters / Bum Creek Road Renovation	No	BLM	Project to be initiated in FY04
Smith River Noxious Weed Control	No	SRWC	Project to be initiated in FY04
Technical Support - UBWC	No	UBWC	Project to be initiated in FY04
Vincent Creek Culvert Replacement	No	BLM	Project to be initiated in FY04
West Fork Smith River Salmonid Trap	No	BLM	Project to be initiated in FY04
NYC and Coos Bay District Maintenance	No	UBWC	Project to be initiated in FY04

OTHER PROJECT UPDATES AND NEW PROJECTS PROPOSED

The following tables summarize projects on the Coos Bay District. Some projects were previously listed and are still being worked on, while other projects have been proposed since the last printed copy of Planning Update was mailed to you. Projects that have been dropped from consideration or that have a signed decision will not be listed in future issues.

This publication allows you to see a brief explanation of newly proposed projects and you can decide if you wish additional information about any of them. If you previously requested to be put on a specific mailing list, it is not necessary to repeat the request.

The electronic version of Planning Update on the District's web page will be kept current; however, this printed copy is only mailed out a few times per year. Projects started and completed between mailed copies of Planning Update will have gone through the full analysis process. Legal notices published in The World newspaper of Coos Bay provides details on public involvement and the public comment process for these projects. These projects will also be listed and tracked on the District's web page and can be viewed at any time at:

<http://www.or.blm.gov/coosbay>

The contact people are familiar with their projects and are able to answer questions and provide more details on the projects. They are interested in information you wish to share concerning any of the projects or project areas. You can fold the cover of this Planning Update to make a convenient return mailer to respond to us in writing.

UNDERSTANDING THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is the broadest environmental law in our nation. NEPA applies to all federal agencies and most of the activities they manage, regulate, or fund that may affect the quality of the human environment. Whenever a management action is proposed on the BLM administered lands in the Coos Bay District, we are required to conduct an interdisciplinary review of the environmental effects of the proposal. We are required to provide the public with an opportunity to be involved in the planning and decision making process. The review of the environmental effects of a proposed action can occur in any of four ways: Documentation of land use plan conformance and NEPA adequacy, categorical exclusions, environmental assessments, or environmental impact statements. Each of these is discussed in greater detail below.

DOCUMENTATION OF LAND USE PLAN CONFORMANCE AND NEPA ADEQUACY (DNA)

A DNA is a determination by BLM that NEPA documentation previously prepared by the BLM fully covers a proposed action and no additional analysis is needed.

The process will commence with documentation that the new project's effected environment is comparable to the environmental components previously analyzed (no new information is relevant, no threatened or endangered species, historical or cultural artifacts, hazardous materials, or noxious weed concerns exist on the new site). The DNA will formally document the "sameness" of the new proposed action and the appropriateness of the previous analysis. At the conclusion of the DNA process, a new Decision Record will be prepared for the project. This Decision Record is appealable, just like any other NEPA decision.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS

It has been determined that some types of proposed activities do not individually or cumulatively have significant environmental effects and may be exempt from requirements to prepare an environmental analysis. These actions are called categorical exclusions (CX) and are covered specifically by Department of Interior and BLM Guidelines. Activities covered by a CX are not listed in Planning Update.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

Environmental Assessments (EA) are prepared to assess the effects of actions that are not exempt from NEPA, are not categorically excluded, and are not covered by an existing environmental document. An EA is prepared to determine if a proposed action or alternative will significantly affect the quality of the human environment (significance is defined in 40 CFR 1508.27). If the impacts are determined to be insignificant, a Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI) is prepared which briefly states the reasons the proposed action and/or alternatives will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Once the FONSI has been prepared, the resource manager considers the environmental, social, and economic impacts that would result if the proposed action or an alternative were implemented, and makes a decision as to whether to allow the action to take place or not. If the impacts are determined to be significant, the project could be dropped, or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) could be prepared.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS

Major proposals that will significantly affect the environment require that an EIS be prepared. An EIS will include the environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives, identification of adverse environmental effects that cannot be avoided if the proposed action or an alternative is implemented, description of the relationship between short-term uses and long-term productivity of the environment, and identification of any irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources.

HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED

Resource management in the BLM and other government agencies is process oriented. To influence a final decision on a project or activity, you must be a part of the process, and the sooner the better. You can provide your views and concerns as the proposed action and alternatives are being developed. You can also comment on the FONSI for EAs or the Record of Decision for an EIS during the formal comment periods.

To receive a copy of an EA or EIS or to get involved in the NEPA process, please send your name, address, the title of the project, and your area of interest to us or contact the listed agency personnel at the address, phone number, or e-mail address below:

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1300 Airport Lane
North Bend, OR 97459-2000
(541) 756-0100
7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday
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